



4-12-04

PATENT

Serial No. 09/759,282

Attorney Docket No. 2000-0301B (1014-063)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APR 13 2004

Technology Center 2100

Applicant(s) : Diane Banks et al.
Serial No. : 09/759,282
Filed : 16 January 2001
For : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PARTICIPATING IN CHAT
SESSIONS
Art Unit : 2152
Examiner : Not yet assigned

HS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The paragraphs marked below are applicable.

☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date or the date of filing a CPA, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). No certification or fee is required.

☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

☐ c. Please debit Deposit Account No. 50-2504 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.

☐ 4. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Please debit Deposit Account No. 50-2504 in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1) to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.

☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

OPTIONAL INSERT PARAGRAPHS FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Please delete non-applicable paragraphs).

☐ 5. Relevance of the non-English language reference(s) is discussed in the present specification.

☐ 6. The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

☐ 7. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language reference(s) appears in the Appendix attached hereto.

☐ 8. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. _____, filed, which is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to

consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination of the present application.

☐ 9. This application is one of a series of related applications, identified in the attached Appendix, which are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of those U.S. Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to those applications now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during the examination.

☐ 10. The reference(s) was/were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. _____, filed _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).


☐ 11. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

☐ 12. Other.

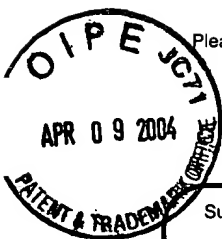
Respectfully submitted,

Michael Haynes PLC

Date: 9 April 2004



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Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/1449

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/759,282
Filing Date	16 January 2001
First Named Inventor	Diane Banks
Group Art Unit	2152
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket Number	2000-0301B (1014-063)

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Technology Center 2100

Examiner Initials	Patent No.	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document
	5,963,217	Grayson	5 October 1999
	6,256,498	Ludwig	3 July 2001
	6,332,127	Bandera	18 December 2001
	6,442,590	Inala	27 August 2002
	6,504,920	Okon	7 January 2003
	6,510,324	Fukumura	21 January 2003
	6,522,886	Youngs	18 February 2003
	6,539,421	Appelman	25 March 2003
	6,629,136	Naidoo	30 September 2003

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Patent No.	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.